

Year End Report for WRJ-2007-2008 submitted by Eileen House

2007-2008 has been a banner year for WRJ. Under the leadership of Membership Vice President Mileyna Razack, our membership has soared to 189 members. Through her popular creation of "The Sisterhood Times", a bi-monthly newsletter, and her weekly e-mail blasts, she has kept us informed of WRJ, Beth-El and community events and activities.

Randee Kaitcer, our treasurer reports that our treasury is healthy and the creation of a finance committee is sure to keep us on track. Our fundraising endeavors, combined with the help and support of Edythe Cohen and her staff in the WRJ Judaica Shop, allow us to continue to provide our annual \$10,000 to underwrite some of the Religious School expenses, we provide Camperships that enable many students to attend Greene Family Camp, and provide gifts to the congregation. This year we have purchased many replacement items for the Temple Kitchen, including dishes, wine glasses and miscellaneous cooking utensils. WRJ provided the library with a copy of "The Torah, A Women's Commentary". We also took great pride in providing an enhancement to the sound system in the Great Hall with the purchase and installation of a cordless microphone. And I am excited to report that just last week, the WRJ board voted to contribute \$3,100 towards the upgrade to the patio lighting adjacent to the Great Hall.

Roberta Gerrick, our Programming Vice President has given us a stellar year of activities and socializing. We certainly fulfilled her goal of creating FUN for WRJ. New for 2007-2008 are the bi-monthly Bunko evenings, social outings like the "Wine and Jazz Social", a trip to the Kimball, the Fort Worth Ballet and a bus trip to Dallas for "Menopause the Musical". Our Networking Social was a precursor to the publication of the Beth-El Family Networking Directory, which allows us to patronize and support the businesses of our Beth-El family members. Of course, we still enjoyed our regular programming with Knitzvah, Rosh Chodesh, a Mah Jongg tournament, our wonderful annual Donor event, and our "Art of Jewish Cooking" classes.

Team Beth-El participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, where we raised more money by selling "Patches for the Cure" in honor or memory of loved ones touched by breast cancer and our Race Education Night gave all attending valuable information about treatments and the Jewish genetic links to breast cancer. This, along with our breakfast with a speaker about Barnett Shale, our collection of school supplies for children in Iraq, participation in Daughters of Abraham and our Interfaith Shabbat kept us connected to our community.

WRJ continues to provide the annual Rosh Hashannah reception, help MRJ with activities for the Channukah family dinner, bake Hammantashen for Purim activities, and helped with the FWFTY conclave. Our Second Night Seder was, once again, a raving success.

We concluded our year with a delicious Membership Appreciation Brunch and program featuring the book, *Reflection of a Man The Photographs of Stanley Marcus*.

Many thanks to my board members who are not listed above, Loretta Causey, Elizabeth Cooper, Shirley Spitzberg, Amy Cooper, Laurie James, Sha'ron Clark and Hollace Weiner. Their contributions along with the efforts of many other WRJ members are the reason our year was such a success.